



U.S. House of Representatives



New York State Legislature



New York City Council

September 7, 2016

Patrick Foye  
Executive Director  
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey  
225 Park Avenue South, 15th Floor  
New York, NY 10003

Dear Mr. Foye,

We would like to bring to your attention troubling information we have learned regarding air traffic over parts of Queens and ask for your expeditious response to its implications.

As you may already know, Queens Quiet Skies, a local organization that advocates for decreased airplane noise, conducted a study and released a report based on information they received directly from the Port Authority. Their investigation concludes that there has been a nearly 80 percent increase in air traffic over the neighborhoods of Jackson Heights and Woodside in our districts over the past decade. As longtime advocates for the need to mitigate airplane noise over communities in Queens, we ask that you provide a detailed explanation of the data provided to Queens Quiet Skies and an assessment of the conclusion drawn from their investigation. Specifically, we would like to know whether traffic over these particular communities has in fact increased, and if so, whether it was diverted from other communities or is the result of overall increased traffic to LaGuardia Airport.

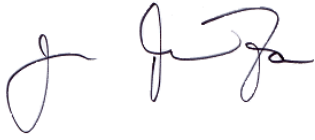
Additionally, as recently as last October, we contacted the Port Authority regarding ongoing construction at one of LaGuardia's runways and its consequent impact on air traffic, creating early-morning and late-night noise over Woodside and Jackson Heights. Residents and their elected officials were told both in person and in writing that while the construction's timing could not be altered due to multiple constraints, it would be completed within a few months. However, that construction is still ongoing, and we suspect it may have contributed to the findings released in Queens Quiet Skies' report. We would like to know definitively when this construction will be concluded so our constituents can get some degree of relief.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure the communities we represent are neither disproportionately nor needlessly impacted by the noise of low-flying aircraft.

Sincerely,

Joseph Crowley  
Member of Congress, 14<sup>th</sup> District

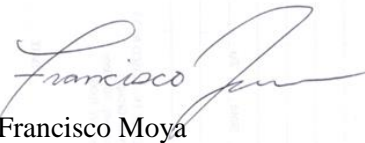
Toby Ann Stavisky  
New York State Senator, 16<sup>th</sup> District



Jose Peralta  
New York State Senator, 13<sup>th</sup> District



Margaret M. Markey  
New York State Assembly, 30th District



Francisco Moya  
New York State Assembly, 39th District



Jimmy Van Bramer  
NYC Council Member, 26th District



Michael Gianaris  
New York State Senator, 12th District



Michael DenDekker  
New York State Assembly, 34th District



Daniel Dromm  
NYC Council Member, 25th District